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LETTER DATED 24 JUNE 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CANADA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Further to our letter of 21 January last, I have the honour to report on the activities carried out to date by the Canadian armed forces in respect of the operations in the Gulf.

Since our last report, Canada's naval operational group has raised the number of maritime interceptions in support of Security Council resolutions to 1,877. Following the outbreak of hostilities on 17 January, the Group joined the multinational combat logistic force (CLF) whose task it was to escort and resupply the coalition's combat support vessels. Canada was given tactical command of the force. The original naval group returned to Canada on 7 April 1991.

Canada maintains a presence within the maritime interdiction force. HMCS Huron, which is currently stationed there, began patrolling on 9 May. The vessel will continue its operations in support of United Nations resolutions until further notice.

On 17 January 1991, Canada's fighter squadron was authorized to carry out advance protection and escort missions in the theatre of operations; it was subsequently also authorized to carry out air-to-ground attacks. In all, the squadron carried out 994 sorties within the context of air combat missions, advance protection and escort missions and ground attacks. The Canadian Air Force also provided a tanker for in-flight refueling of Canadian and coalition aircraft and one passenger plane to transport Canadians to the theatre of operations.

Canada also had a field hospital in Saudi Arabia between 28 January and 30 March 1991. This unit, in collaboration with the British forces, provided medical care for wounded members of the coalition forces and for wounded Iraqis.

In addition to the joint headquarters, which has already been the subject of a report (including its complete communications unit), Canada also deployed infantry subunits to protect its air operations, the field hospital and the

joint headquarters. On 4 March 1991, when the number of Canadians in the region was at its highest point, Canada had 2,473 military personnel in the theatre of operations.

Following the cease-fire, a team of 23 engineers from the Canadian armed forces was assigned to Kuwait City to clear unexploded explosive munitions.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) L. Yves FORTIER, O.C., Q.C.
Ambassador and Permanent Representative